

city college news

George Brown gains new insights into learning

On May 23 and 24, George Brown and Humber co-hosted "Insights into Learning: Multiple Approaches to Generic Skills" at the St. James campus. Over 160 staff from colleges throughout Ontario and the U.S. attended. The conference was part of the Learning College Project, an initiative of the Ontario colleges to promote innovations and best practices in learning-centered education.

In her keynote address, Dr. Janice Stein, Director of the Centre for International Studies at the University of Toronto, underlined the essential need to ensure students develop their generic skills in post secondary education. "I don't care how much history they learn," she said. "I care that they learn how to find good information, how to analyze it and how to use it to make good judgments about the future."

The second day's activities included a plenary session panel entitled "Pathways to a New Paradigm: Generic

Skills in a Learning College." Participants were Dr. Renate Krakauer, President, Michener Institute; Dr. Mary Kay Kickels, Vice-President Academic Affairs, Moraine Valley Community College; and Dr. Kay M. McClenney, Director Community College, The University of Texas at Austin. George Brown's Vice-President of Academic Excellence, Michael Cooke served as a panel moderator.

According to Cooke, "Insights Into Learning" provided a rich opportunity for participants to share best practices in the teaching of generic skills. Participants were high in praise for the richness of the workshops and the superb hospitality offered by George Brown staff and students."

Hilde Zimmer and Kay Oxford coordinated the conference. For more information about the program or the presentations, call ext. 4724 or 2195, or email hzimmer@gbrownc.on.ca or koxford@gbrownc.on.ca.



Convocation 2002 was a resounding success

More than 2,000 students attended Convocation 2002, which was held on June 12 and 13 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Eugene Harrigan, Vice-President of Corporate Affairs, served as the master of ceremonies. Acting President Michael Cooke was on hand to present the diplomas, along with the Deans from each faculty. Six ceremonies were held over the course of the two days. Special thanks go to the efforts of more than 40 staff members who provided invaluable support services for the event.



Dr. Renate Krakauer and Dr. Kay M. McClenney participated in the plenary panel session at "Insights Into Learning."

Community Services & Health Sciences Dean is committed to improving training for health care professionals

George Brown's new Dean for the Faculty of Community Services and Health Sciences considers herself a "personal person." With more than 20 years in the healthcare profession, Lorie Shekter-Wolfson has certainly lived up to that description. She also has a proven track record in change management initiatives, and has played various leadership roles in the healthcare, educational and government communities.

Her list of accomplishments is significant. She has been a social work clinician in medicine and psychiatry, a family counselor specializing in adults with eating disorders, Director of Social Work and

Director of Multicultural Health for Toronto Hospital, and she has done contract work facilitating process change for the Ontario Ministry of Health and Management Board.

Throughout her career, she has taught at colleges, clinics and universities, published numerous peer review articles, and co-authored two books on eating disorders. In addition, she was instrumental in the development of the world-renowned Eating Disorder Day Program and Metro Toronto's Community Care Access Centres. She was most recently National Clinical Director, EAP (Employee Assistance

Programs) for Warren Shepell Consultants Inc.

At the heart of all her efforts is an unshakable drive to effect change where it is needed. Shekter-Wolfson now feels that her multifaceted skills will be put to the real test at George Brown. "I have spent most of my career in healthcare and seen where changes need to be made, and I've led a lot of change initiatives at many levels," she says.

In joining George Brown, I saw an opportunity to make a difference and to have a meaningful influence in the areas I have worked. The classroom is where we can really facilitate the changes

that are needed. There we can ensure that professionals are better prepared to meet the many challenges that are happening in this field."



GBC Theatre grad to play opposite Christopher Plummer in King Lear

Some notable George Brown Theatre School grads are hitting the summer theatre circuit. Sarah McVie, a 2000 graduate is with the Stratford Festival where she has landed (among other roles) the part of Cordelia opposite Christopher Plummer in *King Lear*, which will be running



from August 24 to November 3. Having started in the Festival's Conservatory for Classical Training only a year ago, McVie says playing Cordelia was a "huge jump"

for her and she is looking forward to starting rehearsals with Plummer in July. McVie came to George Brown after graduating from the Ottawa School of Speech and Drama because "I wanted to be in Toronto and George Brown Theatre School had a great reputation. Not only is it in the heart of a vibrant theatre community, the teachers and guest artists are all professionals in the field."

Other GBC Theatre School graduates working at the Stratford Festival include Evan Buliung (1996), who is playing Edgar in *King Lear*; Sarah Dodd (1995), playing Lady Montague in *Romeo & Juliet* and Lady Anne in *Richard III*; Brendan Murray (2000), playing Arcite in *Two Noble Kinsmen*; Kimwun Perehinic (1998), who is in the new play development company; and 2001 graduate Julie Tepperman who is in her first year as an apprentice.

College staff changes

For the period up to May 31, 2002

New Staff:

Jonathan Bradshaw, *Community Services & Health Sciences*
Sou Choi, *Communications & Marketing*
Fred Gaspar, *Information Systems*
Andre Holder, *Educational Resources*
Joshua Li, *Technology*
Steven Martin, *Technology*
Barbara Nelson, *Registrar's Office*
Doreen Pashkoff, *Business & Creative Arts*
Joseph Rudyk, *Centre for Continuous Learning*
Lorie Shekter-Wolfson, *Community Services & Health Sciences*
Karen Sorbera, *Business & Creative Arts*
Dan Thompson, *Business & Creative Arts*
Ray Vaughan, *Business & Creative Arts*
Marie-Jose Villavarayan, *International Programs*

Leaving the College:

Kathleen Abbott, *Centre for Continuous Learning*
Susan Devis, *Community Services & Health Sciences*
Sue Kean, *Student Affairs*
Joanne Tonk, *Business & Creative Arts*

Retiring from the College:

Ralph Javier, *Finance*
Celeste Ross, *Community Services & Health Sciences*
Dilip Shroff, *Information Systems*
Rosalind Talbert, *Technology*

SuperBuild update



The Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre for Studies in Community Health (above) will open later this summer. All three SuperBuild projects remain on schedule and within budget. *Photo by William Conway.*

Over the summer, expect to see some significant visible progress on the SuperBuild projects. Here is an update on the individual sites:

St. James

Excavation is 85% complete. Stairwell #1 is finished, and work has commenced on the second stairwell. Sub-floor plumbing is near completion (90%) and the structural steel frame has reached the halfway mark. Site remediation is now underway.

Casa Loma – 146 Kendal

De-watering of the site is near completion. Workers have commenced the underpinning of adjacent buildings and shoring for basement excavations.

Sally Horsfall Eaton Centre

Official opening day for this location is fast approaching. Work crews have installed all new rooftop air handling units, four of which are already operational. Installation of the mechanical plant in the penthouse is complete, and work is now underway on the new elevators. Air and vapour barrier and curtain (glass) wall installation is in progress. Drywall partitions are being erected on the fifth and sixth floors, and mechanical and electrical rough-ins are in progress.

New Chairs move forward with ConEd initiatives

After a few short weeks on the job, George Brown's Centre for Continuous Learning's new Chairs – Joe Rudyk and Deborah Clark – are already putting their collective efforts into developing new programs and expanding connections for the Centre.

As the new Chair for Community Services and Allied Health, Clark is no stranger to managing large-scale coordination projects. For 10 years, she was a member of the provincial senior management team at The Canadian Red Cross,

where she was responsible for managing the delivery of services, establishing policies and administering staff providing homecare and services for seniors. She previously spent six years at West Park Hospital's Community Psychogeriatric Services, providing consultation services and organizing public education initiatives.

Clark joined George Brown full-time after having spent several years doing part-time summer placements here. "I've spent my entire professional life in health care and wanted to be able to bring that experience to education," she says. "I've always had a good feeling about George Brown and saw a significant opportunity to make a difference in the field." She says her focus is to "work hand in glove" with full time program staff, community partners, employers, association and agencies to find more efficient delivery of education.

Joe Rudyk joins the department as Chair for Nursing Programs. He came to

George Brown from Humber, where he was coordinator for Continuing Education nursing programs for two years. Prior to entering the college environment, Rudyk was a nurse at Toronto General Hospital for nearly 16 years in the Emergency Department.

Why the shift to education? "The current nursing shortage has increased the demand for nursing education, especially in specialty certificate programs. I saw getting involved in the educational aspect of nursing as a new and exciting career path."

Rudyk says that the biggest appeal of George Brown was its "leadership role in education. The CE nursing programs at GBC allow students to grow, experience and expand their professional abilities."

He points out that demand has increased to the point where he expects a 20% growth in enrolment over the next year. "Our primary goal is to provide students with quality programs taught by clinical experts."



upcoming events

Free Career Planning Workshop – sponsored by Marketing & Communications and Continuing Education

Monday, August 19 (6:30 to 9:30pm)

St. James Campus, 200 King St. E., Room 128

Call 416-415-2000, ext. 3444 and press 1 to register.

Free True Colors® Workshop – sponsored by Marketing & Communications and Continuing Education

Monday, August 26 (6:30 to 9:30pm)

St. James Campus, 200 King St. E., Room 128

Call 416-415-2000 ext. 3444 and press 3 to register.

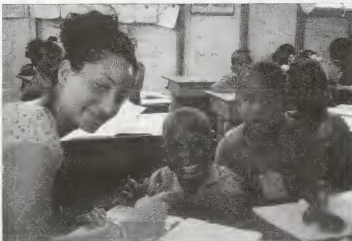
news briefs

GBC Graphic Design students selected for Graphis Annual

This year three George Brown Graphic Design students - Clayton Hammer, Jason Mari and Melinda Zhou - were selected for entry into Graphis magazine's annual of student work. This annual is "the premier international forum for work produced by students about to enter the professional arena." Entries are drawn from around the world and are selected by a jury of prestigious designers. Submissions include works by students from Cranbrook, Pratt, The School of Visual Arts, Syracuse University and Emily Carr College of Art and Design.

ECE students return from Jamaica

Graduates from the Early Childhood Education Program at George Brown, along with faculty members Gail Hunter and Lynn Wilson, recently returned from a trip to Savanna La Mar, just outside of Negril, Jamaica. The group spent their time working as part of a team with teachers and their primary students. ECE student Monica Quijarro says of the trip, "I feel I made a difference because I gave my children what my professors gave to me: opportunity, love and respect."



ECE student Nadia DiTuri helps children with their printing at West End Basic School in Negril, Jamaica.



The Annual Staff Picnic on Centre Island was a fun day for all. Held on a beautiful Saturday, May 25, this year's picnic fulfilled its promise for BBQ and games, including the popular sack race (above).



Academic Bridging students are the first recipients of the "Uncle Bob" Koledin Memorial Award

Staff members of the Academic Bridging Department have created a new student award called the "Uncle Bob" Koledin Memorial Award for Academic Excellence. The Award was established in honour of Bob Koledin, a long-serving George Brown faculty member who passed away in April of this year. The award will be presented each semester to students who exemplify outstanding effort and commitment. John Kitchener, Counsellor with the Faculty of the Community Services, is shown here presenting the Award to Sahista Zahid (left) for English and to Maribel Zeller (right) for Math.

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